

INFORMATION

AGENDA ITEM: Young Adult Services

GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:

CURRENT STATUS: In August 1999, the Library of California Board adopted a motion “to pursue a legislative vehicle(s) to implement a statewide Young Adult Services Program based on a program design that was initially adopted by the Board in August 1998.” Since the last Board meeting, the following activities have occurred:

Assembly Select Committee On Adolescence

This committee was created at the request of Assemblywoman Susan Davis (San Diego) who recognized the plight of California’s adolescents. The purpose of the committee was to investigate the normal and problematic issues of this underserved segment of California’s population. Committee members included: Dion Aroner, Patricia Bates, Audie Bock, Hannah-Beth Jackson, Alan Lowenthal, Kerry Mazzoni, Robert Pacheco, Virginia Strom-Martin, Carl Washington, Herb Wesson, Charlene Zettel. A series of three public hearings was held and the committee has heard from LoC Board Members, the library community, youth, parents, and representatives from health, mental health, education, juvenile justice, human services, etc., to determine how California could best serve adolescent youth. The committee planned to develop and introduce legislation in January 2000 related to adolescents. A report from the Assembly Select Committee on Adolescence that would include a summary of findings and recommendations is pending. Copies will be forwarded to Board members and the library community.

AB 2486 IS INTRODUCED

On February 24, 2000, Assemblymember Carl Washington (52nd District), a member of the Assembly Select Committee on Adolescence, introduced AB 2486 which will create the “Youth Development and Mentoring Program.” (Exhibit A)

Sponsored by the Library of California Board (Exhibit B), endorsed by the California Library Association, and approved by the California Department of Education, the bill is based on the program design that was initially adopted by the Board in August 1998.

According to the bill, the State Librarian shall award grants to public libraries that provide services to youth, including but not limited to occupational and post-

secondary education information, a homework center, a mentoring center, and a resources clearinghouse providing information regarding local after school programs and activities for youth. * \$2.4 million is appropriated from the General Fund to the State Librarian for the purpose of allocating funds on a competitive grant award basis (\$1,200,000 for 2001-02 fiscal year and \$1,200,000 for 2002-03 fiscal year).

AB 2486 will be heard in the Assembly Committee on Local Government on Wednesday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in room 447, State Capitol. A copy of the press release prepare for staff in Assemblyman Washington's office is appended (Exhibit C).

* February 24, 2000 version

RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE: Updates on activities by Board members and staff.

Relevant Committee: Access Services

Staff Liaison: Bessie Condos Tichauer